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# Security Council

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## Letter dated 7 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regarding the meeting of the self-proclaimed republics held in Tiraspol, a city in the separatist region of Transdniestria, Moldova, on 20-22 November 2000.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Peter **Chkheidze**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

00-78739 (E) 071200

## Annex to the letter dated 7 December 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

### Statement of the Ministry of the Foreign Affairs of Georgia

On 20-22 November 2000 a meeting of the representatives of self-proclaimed republics on the territory of the former Soviet Union was held in Tiraspol, a separatist region of Moldova. The so-called Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali, the separatist regions of Georgia, participated in the meeting.

The Tiraspol meeting was yet another attempt of the illegitimate regimes to overcome the crises suffered by these regions due to the course chosen by separatists. The meeting will, at the least, negatively influence the negotiations process and create new barriers to timely and comprehensive resolution of the conflict.

In light of the introduction of the visa regime between Georgia and the Russian Federation, the Tiraspol meeting highlights the dangers associated with the intention of the Russian side to establish unilaterally the simplified border-crossing for the separatist regions in Georgia (S/2000/1122). Such unilateral actions are clear violations of the sovereign rights of Georgia and contradict universally recognized principals and norms of international law.

The Tiraspol meeting is a clear indication of what type of "humanitarian considerations" are contemplated under the intention to introduce the simplified near border-crossing. It also merits consideration that the majority of the so-called leadership of the separatists are citizens of the Russian Federation and hold Russian passports to move free on its territory and receive visas as Russian citizens to represent the separatist regimes abroad.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia regrets that the Russian Federation, a participant of the conflict resolution negotiations, a member of the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General and the Security Council, a country that has suffered itself from aggressive separatism, is choosing, in stark contrast to common interests, an unfit course of relations between the two countries.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia is calling upon the international community, the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General, to give an appropriate assessment to the Tiraspol meeting, which undermines the values of the United Nations and threatens the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia.